

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03940 262212Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 SNM-05 AGRE-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07

TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 /074 W

-----062570 262217Z /70

P R 262128Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7676

INFO WHITE HOUSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 3940

FOR ARA ASST SEC TODMAN, HA ASST SEC DERIAN, S/NM MATHEA FALCO,
WHITE HOUSE FOR PETER BOURNE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, EPAP, CO, US, SHUM

SUBJECT: TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND NEGOTIATIMNS: UPCOMING BILATERAL
NEGOTIATIONS WITH COLOMBIA

REF: STATE 096738

1. PRIOR TO THE INITIATION OF NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE RENEWAL
OF THE US/COLOMBIAN TEXTILE AGREEMENT, WE BELIEVE IT OPPORTUNE TO
STEP BACK AND ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE HOW THESE NEGOTIATIONS FIT INTO
OUR OVERALL POLICY OBJECTIVES WITH COLOMBIA AND, BY IMPLICATION,
WITH OTHER DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ONE OF THE FACTORS
WE SUGGEST BE CONSIDERED IN DEVELOPING THE US POSITION FOR THE
TALKS IS HUMAN RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY INTERMS OF GIVING POSITIVE AND
TANGIBLE RECOGNITION TO THOSE COUNTRIES WITH GOOD HUMAN
RIGHTS RECORDS.

2. THE BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN AN IRRITANT TO US/
COLOMBIAN RELATIONS SINCE IT WAS NEGOTIATED IN 1975. THE
COLOMBIANS CLAIM THAT WHILE THE US WAS QUITE GENEROUS IN THOSE
CATEGORIES WHERE COLOMBIAN INDUSTRY COULD NOT COMPETE IN THE US
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 03940 262212Z

MARKET, IT WAS AT THE SAME TIME QUITE RESTRICTIVE IN CATEGORIES
WHERE COLOMBIA COULD COMPETE. THE EXAMPLES MOST OFTEN MENTIONED
OF COURSE, ARE MENS' WOOLEN SUITS, PANTS AND COATS. THE RES-
TRICCTIONS ON TEXTILE EXPORTS HAVE SPILLED OVER INTO OTHER AREAS
OF TRADE, CLOUDING, IN THE EYES OF THE COLOMBIANS, THE BENEFITS
AVAILABLE UNDER THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES.
RELAXATION OF THE QUOTA IN THOSE AREAS WHERE COLOMBIA IS MOST

COMPETITIVE HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF APPROACHES AT ALL LEVELS.
INCLUDING DURING THE VISIT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER IN 1976.
BOGOTA A-11 REPORTS ON THE RISING SENTIMENTS ON WHAT COLOMBIAN
VIEW AS EXCESSIVE PROTECTIONISM IN THE U.S.

3. FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW, VARIOUS CASPS, PARMS AND GOALS AND
OBJECTIVES STATEMENTS HAVE INCLUDED AS AN OBJECTIVE SUPPORT
FOR CONTINUED ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN COLOMBIA.
MOREOVER, A RECENT EMBASSY REPORT ON CRIME IN COLOMBIA
(BOGOTA A19) SET FORTH THE POSSIBILITY OF STIMULATING THE
GROWTH OF LEGITIMATE BUSINESS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS A
MEANS OF A) GARNERING GREATER SUPPORT FOR OUR JOINT ANTI-
NARCOTICS EFFORTS AND B) MINIMIZING THE HARMFUL EFFECTS TO
THE ECONOMY AND TO SOCIETY OF ILLICIT INCOME. IF OUR POLICY
OBJECTIVES ON ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING
IMPROVED EFFORTS TO STEM THE FLOW OF NARCOTICS ARE TO HAVE
SOME SUBSTANCE, IT MAY BE WORTH CONSIDERING USING THE
TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS AS A VEHICLE. AT THE VERY LEAST, SOME
CONSIDERATION TOWARDS MEETING COLOMBIAN DESIRES COULD IMPROVE
THE RATHER NEGATIVE CLIMATE CREATED RECENTLY BY EPISODES SUCH
AS THE 60 MINUTES SHOW ON NARCOTICS.

4. BEYOND THE PURELY COLOMBIAN CONTEXT, THE NEGOTIATIONS COULD
BE TIED INTO HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS. SOME OBSERVERS HAVE
CHARGED THAT UNITED STATES PROGRAMS FOR PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS
HAVE INCLUDED RELATIVELY LITTLE IN THE WAY OF TANGIBLE, IN-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 03940 262212Z

CREASED BENEFITS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH GOOD RECORDS.
TO THE EXTENT THAT THESE CHARGES ARE TRUE, OR AT LEAST BELIEVED,
NEGOTIATIONS SUCH AS THE RENEWAL OF THE BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREE-
MENT COULD PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE UNITED STATES TO
BREAK NEW GROUND IN THIS AREA, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CREATING
AN INCENTIVE FOR IMPROVEMENT IN COUNTRIES WITH QUESTIONABLE
HUMAN RIGHTS RECORDS.

5. WE ARE NOT SUGGESTING DOING AWAY WITH THE TEXTILE AGREEMENT
OR QUOTA INCREASES THAT WOULD PERMIT COLOMBIA TO FLOOD THE U.S.
MARKET(IF COLOMBIAN INDUSTRY WERE IN A POSITION TO DO SO).
WHAT WE ARE SUGGESTING IS THAT A REASONABLE QUOTA INCREASE MAY
CARRY WITH IT IMPORTANT, LONG-TERM BENEFITS TO THE UNITED
STATES.
ASENCIO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILE INDUSTRY, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BOGOTA03940
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780179-0190
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780417/aaaaanpi.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9b55bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 96738
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2848362
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND NEGOTIATIONS: UPCOMING BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH COLOMBIA
TAGS: ETRD, EIND, EPAP, SHUM, CO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9b55bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014